

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 MC-02 ACDA-05 AID-05 IGA-01 OMB-01

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9806

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, TU, CY, GR

SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL DISCUSSES US ARMS EMBARGO, CYPRUS,
AND RELATIONS WITH GREECE

1. JULY 2 TURKISH PRESS GIVES EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO AN
EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW GIVEN BY PRIMIN DEMIREL TO CORRESPONDENT
FROM FRENCH WEEKLY PARIS MATCH IN WHICH DEMIREL DISCUSSED
INTER ALIA THE U.S. ARMS EMBARGO, CYPRUS PROBLEM AND
TURKISH-GREEK RELATIONS.

2. ON EMBARGO, DEMIREL REPORTEDLY TOLD CORRESPONDENT THAT
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TURKEY MUST SEPARATE MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH ALLIES

WITHIN NATO FRAMEWORK FROM BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH THE U.S. ON MISSILE (SIC) BASES AND VERY IMPORTANT RADAR STATIONS IN TURKEY. DIRECTING A STATEMENT TO U.S., DEMIREL IS QUOTED AS SAYING "BY IMPOSING THE EMBARGO YOU MADE THE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS NULL AND VOID. SO WE HAVE TO GIVE A NEW SHAPE TO THESE AGREEMENTS. WE GAVE YOU A MONTH'S NOTICE TO THINK AND START NEGOTIATIONS WITH US. THIS IS NOT AN ULTIMATUM. LET US CALL IT AN INVITATION." TO QUESTION IF TURKEY WOULD CLOSE DOWN U.S. BASIS IF THE EMBARGO IS NOT LIFTED IN A MONTH, DEMIREL RESPONDED, "I DO NOT WANT TO ENGAGE IN THE GAME OF POSSIBILITIES AT THE MOMENT."

3. IN ANSWERING QUESTIONS ABOUT CYPRUS PROBLEM, PRIME MINISTER DID LITTLE MORE THAN REHASH STANDARD GOVERNMENT LINE. OF INTEREST THOUGH WAS DEMIREL'S CONTENTION THAT TURKEY'S HAVING OCCUPIED FORTY PERCENT OF ISLAND IN FOUR DAYS SHOWS THAT TURKEY HAD NO INTENTION OF OCCUPYING ENTIRE ISLAND. TURKEY, HE SAID, COULD HAVE DONE SO IN THREE MORE DAYS.

4. DEMIREL COMPLAINED THAT WESTERN COUNTRIES ACCEPT WHATEVER GREECE SAYS AND PREJUDGE IN FAVOR OF GREECE, THUS HINDERING EFFORTS TO SOLVE PROBLEMS IN TURKISH-GREEK RELATIONS. HE ADDED THAT TURKEY IS SEEKING WAYS TO COOPERATE WITH GREECE AND INVITED GREEK COOPERATION IN THE EXPLOITATION OF AEGEAN RESOURCES.

5. COMMENT: WE UNDERSTAND THAT DEMIREL'S EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH FRENCH CORRESPONDENT WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED IN PARIS MATCH UNTIL JULY 5. ALTHOUGH TEXT OF AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW IS NOT NORMALLY RELEASED UNTIL DATE INTERVIEW IS PUBLISHED IN CORRESPONDENT'S PAPER, MINISTER OF INFORMATION PRESS OFFICE HERE RELEASED A VERBATIM TEXT OF THIS INTERVIEW TO LOCAL PRESS ON JULY 1.
BERGUS

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